AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please substitute the following for the Brief Description of the Drawings section found at page 11, line 4 to page 12, line 2.

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BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS:

FIG. 1 depicts a block diagram illustrating a system architecture suitable for implementing the infection control system of the present invention.

FIG. 2 depicts a flowchart illustrating a method of the present invention for performing infection control using the system architecture of FIG. 1.

FIG. 3 depicts a flowchart illustrating a computer software method for determining relatedness between bacterial isolates.

FIGS. 4A and 4B depict an example of how server 118 operating the software of the present invention converts raw nucleotide sequence data into repeat sequence designations. In FIG 4A, SEQ ID 1-9 are shown, from top to bottom, respectively. In FIG 4B, SEQ ID 10 is shown.

FIG. 5 depicts a block diagram illustrating an example of a series of isolate sequences that have been converted into repeat sequence designations.

FIG. 6 depicts a block diagram illustrating how sequencing multiple regions of DNA allows the isolates to be grouped into hierarchical levels of subspeciation.

FIGS. 7A and 7B depict examples of database records and the types of data that can be stored in a database record in a centralized database. FIG 7A shows SEQ ID 11-13 as SEQ REGION 1-3, respectively. FIG 7B shows SEQ ID 17-19 from left to right on the line labeled PROTEIN AX_R, and shows SEQ ID 20-22 from left to right on the line labeled REGION 2.

FIGS. 8A and 8B depict a DNA sequence of that can be employed to identify and track infection of *Enterococcus faecalis*. FIG 8A shows SEQ ID 23 (entire nucleotide sequence), SEQ ID 37 (top box), and SEQ ID 38 (bottom box). FIG 8B shows SEQ ID 24-32, 26, and 33-36 from top to bottom, respectively.

FIG. 8C depicts a protein sequence that the DNA sequence depicted in FIGS. 8A and 8B codes for. FIG 8C shows SEQ ID 39-43, 43-45, 43, 41, 46, 47, 42, and 48 from top to bottom, respectively.

FIGS. 9A and 9B depict a DNA sequence of that can be employed to identify and track infection of *Helicobacter pylori*. FIG 9A shows SEQ ID 59 (entire nucleotide sequence), SEQ ID 51 (top box), and SEQ ID 52 (bottom box). FIG 9B shows SEQ ID 50 repeated from top to bottom.

FIG. 9C depicts a protein sequence that the DNA sequence depicted in FIGS. 9A and 9B codes for, and shows SEQ ID 53 repeated from top to bottom.

FIGS. 10A and 10B depict a DNA sequence of that can be employed to identify and track infection of *Staphylococcus aureus*. FIG 10A shows SEQ ID 54 (entire nucleotide sequence), SEQ ID 76 (top box), and SEQ ID 77 (bottom box). FIG 10B shows SEQ ID 55-75 from top to bottom as labeled.

FIG. 10C depicts another DNA sequence of that can be employed to identify and track infection of *Staphylococcus aureus*, and shows SEQ ID 79 and SEQ ID 80.

FIG. 10D depicts a protein sequence (SEQ ID 78) that the DNA sequence depicted in FIGS. 10B and 10C code for.

FIGS. 10E and 10F depict the repeat patterns for the sequences from *Staphylococcus aureus* isolates 1 and 2, respectively.--